

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY:AF/W:JHLEWIS

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO OAU COLLECTIVE

XMT AMEMBASSY DAKAR

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 162867

FOLLOWING REPEAT DAKAR 4683 ACTION SECSTATE INFO HAVANA
LONDON, MOSCOW, PARIS, AND USUN NEW YORK DATED JUNE 20, 1978.

QUOTE: C O N F I D E N T I A L DAKAR 4683

DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS TO OAU COLLECTIVE

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PORG, XA, SG

SUBJECT: WORLD YOUTH FESTIVAL IN HAVANA; SENEGAL TRYING
TO ORGANIZE AFRICAN BOYCOTT

1. DURING CONVERSATION JUNE 19, PRESIDENT SENGHOR TOLD ME
THAT THE SOCIALIST YOUTH HAVE DECIDED TO BOYCOTT THE HAVANA
YOUTH FESTIVAL SCHEDULED FOR JULY. SINCE HE CONSIDERS CUBA
TO BE COMMITTING ACTS OF AGGRESSION AND NEO-COLONIALISM IN
AFRICA, SENEGAL WOULD HAVE BEEN INCLINED TO BOYCOTT THE
FESTIVAL IN ANY EVENT. BUT THE SENEGALESE WERE PERSUADED
WHEN THEY SAW THE WAY CUBA HAS ALLOCATED REPRESENTATION TO
THE PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES. FRIENDS OF CUBA ARE BEING
GIVEN LARGE NUMBERS OF DELEGATION SLOTS (250 EACH FOR ALGERIA
AND ANGOLA FOR EXAMPLE) WHILE THOSE IDEOLOGICALLY UNPURE
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COUNTRIES LIKE SENEGAL ARE ALLOWED ONLY 40 DELEGATES EACH.
SENGHOR FOUND IT PARTICULARLY IRONIC TO NOTE THAT GUINEA-
CONAKRY IS NOW ON CUBA'S BAD LIST WITH ONLY 40
DELEGATES AUTHORIZED.

2. USING THIS DISCRIMINATORY AND ARBITRARY SELECTION
OF DELEGATES AS HIS MAIN ARGUMENT, SENGHOR SAID THE

GOS IS SENDING REPRESENTATIVES TO OTHER AFRICAN
COUNTRIES, MOSTLY FRANCOPHONE, TO RECOMMEND THAT THEY
TOO BOYCOTT THE FESTIVAL. HE DID NOT TELL ME WHICH
COUNTRIES HAVE AGREED TO JOIN SENEGAL IN THE BOYCOTT
SO FAR, BUT HE IS OBVIOUSLY ENTHUSED AND ELATED
BY THE EXERCISE.
COHEN UNQUOTE VANCE

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